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SOUTHERN FOREST PEST REPORTER

INTERMOUNTAIN STATION
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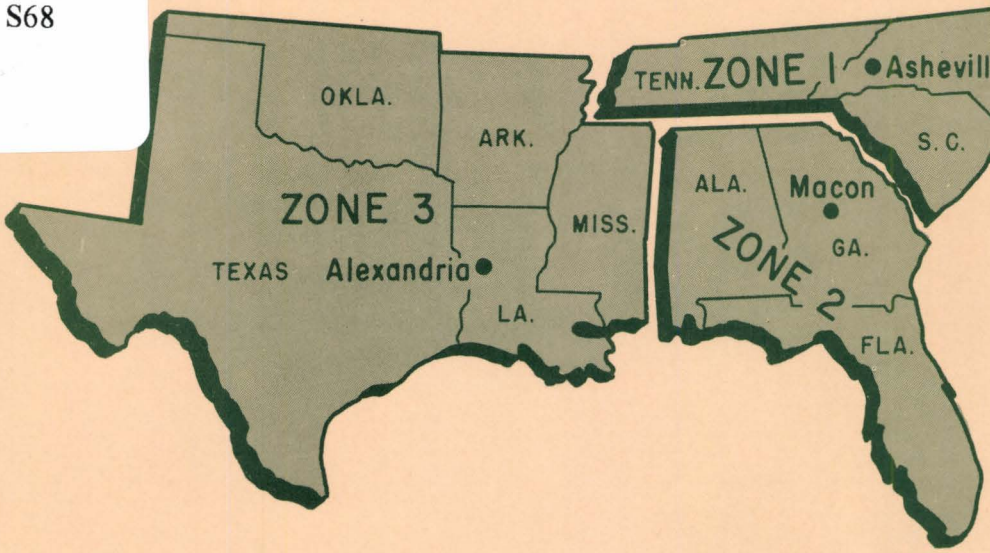
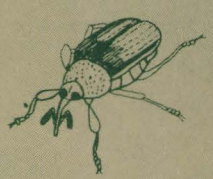
No.



UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FOREST SERVICE
SOUTHERN REGION

BRANCH OF FOREST INSECT
AND DISEASE CONTROL
FIELD OFFICES
ASHEVILLE, N.C.
MACON, GA. ALEXANDRIA, LA.

Number 2 | 50 SEVENTH ST. N.E. ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30323 | July 1965



SUMMARY OF CONDITIONS

... Epidemic outbreaks of the southern pine beetle continue in Alabama, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, and Texas. A new infestation covering about 18 sections was found near Sulphur, Louisiana. Most of the infestations are increasing in severity with the coming of summer. Controls by salvage or chemical treatment are active in all known infested areas.

... New infestations of the balsam woolly aphid have been detected on the Tennessee side of Roan Mountain and in the vicinity of the Fraser fir seed production area on Roan Mountain in North Carolina.

... Defoliation by the forest tent caterpillar is less severe in southern Alabama and Louisiana than in previous years.

... New Fomes annosus centers were found in Alabama, Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, and Texas. Annosus root rot was found in 18 of 20 thinned white pine plantations on National Forest land in western North Carolina.

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STATUS OF FOREST INSECTS

SOUTHERN PINE BEETLE, Dendroctonus frontalis Zimm.

ALABAMA

Southern pine beetle activity increased during the spring on the Talladega District of the Talladega National Forest. Scattered infestations remain on the Shoal Creek, Oakmulgee and Tuscaloosa Districts. Beetle populations on these areas are considered endemic.

Beetle activity continues on private land west of Birmingham. Salvage is being done by individual landowners in this area.

GEORGIA

Southern pine beetle populations on the Tallulah and Chattooga Districts of the Chattahoochee National Forest are at a low level. No active infestations were observed during recent surveys. A few scattered infestations have been reported by District personnel.

The beetle epidemic on private land in Hall County has subsided and control has been discontinued.

LOUISIANA

The beetle infestation in the West Bay area of Allen Parish is still active. Surveys show an increase from 1.27 trees per 1,000 acres in February to 2.27 trees per 1,000 acres in May.

A new discovery of southern pine beetle was made near Sulphur, Louisiana. Louisiana Forestry Commission surveys show the infestation covers about 18 sections. Further surveys are being conducted to determine the size and intensity of the infestation.

MISSISSIPPI

A June survey of the Homochitto National Forest by the U. S. Forest Service showed 33 trees per 1,000 acres infested with southern pine beetle. This represents a sharp increase from the 2.7 trees per 1,000 acres found in March. Reasons for the sudden buildup are not known.

NORTH CAROLINA

The southern pine beetle is in outbreak status in Gates and Beaufort counties in the coastal plain, and activity is continuing in Davie, Iredell, Yadkin and Forsyth counties in the upper Piedmont. Rapid salvage of infested material is being employed to minimize losses. (North Carolina Division of Forestry)

Localized infestations of southern pine beetle were detected in pitch and red pine on the Wayah District of the Nantahala National Forest. A small scale chemical control project was initiated to suppress the infestations.

SOUTH CAROLINA

The infestation on the Andrew Pickens District of the Sumter National Forest continues at a high level. Chemical control and some salvage of the infested material is helping to reduce losses.

Populations of the southern pine beetle have remained at a low level on the Tyger and Enoree Districts of the Sumter National Forest and the Francis Marion National Forest during the spring months.

TENNESSEE

The southern pine beetle is in outbreak status in the Tennessee Valley section of eastern Tennessee. A cooperative survey by the Tennessee Division of Forestry and the U. S. Forest Service has defined the boundaries of this outbreak as encompassing parts of Roane, Anderson, Knox and Loudon counties. Salvage of merchantable material and chemical control of inaccessible or unmerchantable material is being undertaken to reduce losses on Oak Ridge Atomic Energy Reservation and on forest industry holdings within the outbreak area.

TEXAS

An aerial survey by the U. S. Forest Service in January showed a winter population of about 2. 05 trees per 1, 000 acres. Texas Forest Service operational flights in April and May showed much increased activity of the southern pine beetle with some large spots. These reports show southern pine beetle particularly concentrated in the Saratoga-Votaw area of Hardin County and in northern Orange County. Spots were also located in Jasper, Liberty, Newton, Polk and Tyler counties. (Texas Forest Service)

A detection survey by the U. S. Forest Service showed populations of the southern pine beetle to be at a low level on the Angelina National Forest.

BLACK TURPENTINE BEETLE, Dendroctonus terebrans (Oliver)

ARKANSAS — Black turpentine beetles showed no threat during the spring months. Generally, trees were in a better condition to withstand attacks because of better moisture conditions. Also, late cold temperatures held back black turpentine beetle activity. Some activity is occurring as temperatures rise. (Arkansas Forest Pest Report)

TEXAS — Black turpentine beetle activity continued during the spring with control efforts being carried out on National Forests in Angelina, Houston, San Augustine and Trinity counties in hazard areas to prevent population buildup. Beetles heavily infested a 1,000-acre area in Orange County which was heavily thinned two years ago. (Texas Forest Service)

IPS ENGRAVER BEETLE, Ips spp.

ARKANSAS — Ips beetles showed no real threat during the spring months. Generally, trees were in a better condition to withstand attacks because of better moisture conditions. Late cold temperatures held back Ips activity. Some increase is occurring as temperatures rise.

TEXAS — As a whole, no unusual damage from this insect was reported. Increase in population is associated with an increase in southern pine beetle activity. Some mortality on loblolly pine in Gregg County.

FOREST TENT CATERPILLAR, Malacosoma disstria (Hbn.)

ALABAMA — Forest tent caterpillar activity continues to be confined to tupelo gum stands in the Mobile Basin. Aerial surveys indicate that defoliation is less-severe this year than in 1964. Ground examinations and larval rearing indicate a substantial parasite buildup.

LOUISIANA — Damage was not serious this year in Louisiana except for an area north of Highway 190 and east of the Atchafalaya River to west Baton Rouge Parish. Light to moderate defoliation occurred in other scattered areas of south Louisiana.

PINE SAWFLIES, Neodiprion spp.

ARKANSAS — Sawfly infestations by the loblolly pine sawfly, Neodiprion taedae linearis, Ross, were not as intense as in 1964 but a larger area was involved. Heavy defoliation of pines was observed in Calhoun and Union counties in noncontiguous stands. Also, light to medium infestations were found in these counties and in Ouachita, Dallas, Bradley and Ashley counties. (Arkansas Forest Pest Report)

LOUISIANA — The area around Georgetown and Urania was defoliated by the loblolly pine sawfly again this year. The size of the defoliated area increased this year, but damage from defoliation was less severe.

NORTH CAROLINA — The infestation of the Virginia pine sawfly, Neodiprion pratti pratti, in Granville, Vance, and Person counties appears to have increased over last year. (North Carolina Division of Forestry)

WEEVILS

Pales weevils were active all winter except during periods of very cold weather. Increased numbers observed in recently cutover areas with the advent of warm weather. (Arkansas Forest Pest Report)

BALSAM WOOLLY APHID, Chermes piceae (Ratz)

NORTH CAROLINA — An infestation of some 400 trees was detected on Roan Mountain in the vicinity of the Fraser fir seed production area. This infestation is close to infestations detected in 1964.

TENNESSEE — A widespread infestation of the balsam woolly aphid was detected on the Tennessee side of Roan Mountain. Approximately 3,000 to 4,000 trees are involved and are scattered in isolated groups at the lower edge of the spruce-fir type in this area. This is the first report of this insect's occurrence in Tennessee.

WHITE PINE CONE BEETLE, Conopthorus coniperda

NORTH CAROLINA — The white pine cone beetle is unusually abundant in the vicinity of Asheville this year. This insect has been reported a serious pest of white pine cones in the Northeastern United States but has only been collected occasionally in the Southern Appalachians. Some white pine have suffered nearly 100 percent loss of second year cones due to infestation by this beetle.

PINE CHRYSOMELA, Glyptoscelis pubescens

NORTH CAROLINA — A severe infestation of the pine chrysomela occurred on the Beech Creek Seed Orchard near Murphy, North Carolina during April and May. Damage is caused by adults chewing edges of needles irregularly causing them to turn brown. Virginia pine and white pine ramets planted in the orchard were damaged; in some cases as many as 100 beetles were seen on a single 18-inch ramet. Ramets with heavy feeding injury had noticeably less height growth than those with little or no feeding injury.

MISCELLANEOUS INSECTS

Heavy infestations of the Nantucket pine tip moth attacked loblolly pine in middle Georgia this spring.

A stem boring insect tentatively identified as a stem sawfly (Cephidae) attacked loblolly, shortleaf and slash pines in the Piedmont area of Georgia this spring. Trees of all ages appear to be susceptible.

A leaf mining weevil, identified as Odontopus calceatus Say, was reported causing injury to yellow poplar in the vicinity of Norris, Tennessee.

The eastern tent caterpillar, Malacosoma americanum was abundant on cherry throughout North Carolina and South Carolina.

Aphid galls, typical of those caused by the aphid, Pineus pinifoliae, were common on red spruce on Roan Mountain.

STATUS OF FOREST DISEASES

ANNOSUS ROOT ROT, Fomes annosus (Fr.) Cooke

ARKANSAS, LOUISIANA, OKLAHOMA & TEXAS — Fomes annosus infection centers have been found for the first time in Calhoun, Garland and Nevada counties in Arkansas; Sabine Parish, Louisiana; Latimer and LeFlore counties in Oklahoma; and Polk and Tyler counties in Texas.

ALABAMA — Fomes annosus was identified as causing mortality in a 1200-acre slash pine plantation on the reservation of the Anniston Army Depot. The plantation was thinned in 1959-1960.

NORTH CAROLINA — Fomes annosus was found in 18 of 20 thinned white pine plantations on National Forest lands in western North Carolina. The greatest damage was found in stands that had been thinned the longest. Severe damage is occurring in six stands. The two stands where no annosus was found had only been thinned for two years.

LITTLELEAF DISEASE

Littleleaf disease continues to cause considerable mortality in shortleaf pine stands in the Piedmont region of Alabama, Georgia, North Carolina and South Carolina. Numerous infected trees can be detected from the air while surveying for bark beetles.

MISCELLANEOUS DISEASES

Heavy needle cast, Hypoderma lethale Dearn., has been observed on pine species throughout the Southeast this spring.

A canker of yellow poplar caused by Fusarium solani (Mart.) App. & Wr. emend. Snyd. & Hans. has been found in Oconee, Pickens and York counties by the South Carolina Commission of Forestry and Clemson University.

A tree infected with the Dutch elm disease was discovered in Atlanta in May.

More detailed information can be obtained by writing to the Forest Insect and Disease Control Branch Zone Offices listed below or to the Atlanta Office:

ZONES	FOR STATES OF:
Zone 1 Rudolph T. Franklin Zone Leader P. O. Box 1211 Asheville, North Carolina	North Carolina South Carolina Tennessee
Zone 2 William H. Padgett Zone Leader P. O. Box 1077 Macon, Georgia	Alabama Florida Georgia
Zone 3 Henry H. Galusha, Jr. Zone Leader 2500 Shreveport Highway Pineville, Louisiana	Arkansas Louisiana Mississippi Oklahoma Texas